

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR HARTMAN/SONNENFELDT IN SECRETARY'S PARTY

FOLLOWING REPEAT LENINGRAD 731 ACTION SECSTATE INFO

CAIRO MOSCOW TEL AVIV 19 MAY 75.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 0731

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, XF, UR, US

SUBJ: LENINGRAD PROPAGANDIST'S REMARKS ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS  
AND MIDDLE EAST

REF: LENINGRAD

730 NOTAL; LENINGRAD 0729 NOTAL

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: US-SOVIET RELATIONS ARE SAID TO BE  
DOING WELL ENOUGH IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE VIETNAM EVENTS.  
BUT THE US IS SAID TO HAVE SUFFERED GREAT SETBACKS  
IN VARIOUS AREAS OF THE WORLD, INCLUDING THE MIDDLE EAST.  
END SUMMARY.

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2. A ZNANIYE (KNOWLDEGE) SOCIET PROPAGANDIST COMMENTED

ON US-SOVIET RELATIONS AS PART OF HIS PREPARED REMARKS  
AT A SUNDAY, MAY 18, REVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.  
PROPAGANDIST WAS LECTURE CIRCUIT PRO MIKHAIL DMITRIYEVICH  
SOLOV'YEV. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF HIS REMARKS ON  
US-SOVIET RELATIONS AND MIDDLE EAST.

3. SOVIET UNION SUPPORTED ONE SIDE AND US THE OTHER  
IN VIETNAMESE STRUGGLE. NOW THAT WAR HAS ENDED, RELATIONS  
CAN CONTINUE TO IMPROVE. CURRENT EXAMPLES ARE  
STRATEGIC ARMS NEGOTIATIONS; WIDENING OF CONTACTS,  
EG EXCHANGE OF NAVAL SHIP VISITS WAS VERY IMPORTANT  
AND SHOWED MUTUAL FRIENDSHIP; CULTURAL TIES, EG  
MAY 22 OPENING OF METROPOLITAN MUSEUM EXHIBIT IN  
LENINGRAD AND SOVIET EXHIBIT FROM HERMITAGE MUSEUM IN US;  
AND BUSINESS AND TRADE. GROMYKO'S MEETING WITH KISSINGER  
IN VIENNA WILL BE IMPORTANT. UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER,  
AMERICAN PRESS SEEKING TO PUT STORM CLOUDS OVER MEETING  
BY SENSATIONALIZING GROMYKO'S REMARKS IN HIS SPEECH ON  
OCCASION OF 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORY.

4. AS A SWISS PAPER RECENTLY OBSERVED, EVERYTHING HAS ITS  
END AND AMERICA'S AGGRESSIVE POLICY DID NOT GET WHAT IT  
WANTED. INDOCHINA IS NOT ONLY AREA WHERE US HAS SUFFERED  
GREAT SETBACKS. OTHERS ARE IN GREECE, TURKEY, CYPRUS,  
AND FAILURE OF KISSINGER'S MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY. POWER  
OF US IS DECREASING IN TERMS OF POLITICAL SUPREMACY,  
ECONOMY, AND DEGREE OF TRUST--THIS HAS BEEN SUBJECT OF  
COMMENTARY IN US PRESS.

5. VICTORY IN INDOCHINA ALSO ILLUSTRATES ENTIRE COURSE  
OF SITUATION IN MIDDLE EAST. CERTAIN CIRCLES IN  
ISRAEL AND US SEEK TO OPPOSE REGULARIZATION OF AREA,  
BUT ARAB SUCCESSES IN OCTOBER WAR, NEW CHARACTER OF  
POLITICAL SITUATION, POWERFUL WEAPONS OF OIL AND MONEY,  
AND FAILURE OF KISSINGER'S MISSION IN ME, ARE POINTING  
TO CORRECTNESS OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE. REGARDING  
KISSINGER'S MISSION, IT HAD SEVERAL OBJECTIVES:  
A) TO SHOW ARABS AND ENTIRE WORLD THAT KEY TO SOLUTION  
IN ME LAY SOLELY WITH US, B) TO STRENGTHEN THE POSITION  
OF US IN ME, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ENERGY CRISIS;  
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C) TO SLOW PROGRESSIVE TENDENCIES IN AREA; D) DIVIDING  
ARAB STATES FROM ONE ANOTHER; AND E) TRYING TO WEAKEN  
POSITION OF SOVIET UNION IN AREA. BUT NONE OF THESE AIMS  
WAS ACHIEVED SINCE THE MISSION WAS A FAILURE.  
NEUBERT  
UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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